Appln. No. 10/796, 006 Amdt. dated January 21, 2005 Reply to Office Action of November 1, 2004

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved baseball bat
comprising:

a tubular core of rigid materials having a first section to support a handle and a second section to support a striking portion, said second section having a diameter relatively larger that of said first section;

a covering member of semi-rigid materials having a handle portion embracing said first section of said core and a striking portion embracing said second section of said core;

wherein said first section and second section of said core are respectively made and connected by a connecting means; and

wherein said connecting means is a ringlike device inserted tightly into one end of said second section of said core.

(Original) The baseball bat as claimed in claim
 wherein said core is made of a material selected from a
 group consisting of composite materials, metals and plastics.

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- (Original) The baseball bat as claimed in claim
 wherein said core is made of fiber-reinforced plastic
 materials.
- 4. (Original) The baseball bat as claimed in claim 1, wherein said handle portion of said covering member is made of foam plastic materials and said striking portion of said cover is made of wood materials.

Claims 5-6. (Canceled)

- 7. (Currently Amended) The baseball bat as claimed in claim 6 claim 1, wherein the end of said second section of said core has an inner shoulder to complementedly connect with an outer shoulder formed on said ringlike device
- 8. (Original) The baseball bat as claimed in claim

 1, wherein said second section of said core is taperedly

 formed.
- 9. (Original) The baseball bat as claimed in claim

 1, further comprising a protecting layer made of fiberreinforced material and wrapping around the surface of said

 striking portion of said covering member.
- 10. (Original) The baseball bat as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one shock-absorbing device respectively and tightly inserted inside said core.

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- 11. (Original) The baseball bat as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one weight device respectively and tightly inserted inside said core.
- 12. (New) The baseball bat as claimed in claim 2, wherein the end of said second section of said core has an inner shoulder to complementedly connect with an outer shoulder formed on said ringlike device.
- 13. (New) The baseball bat as claimed in claim 3, wherein the end of said second section of said core has an inner shoulder to complementedly connect with an outer shoulder formed on said ringlike device.
- 14. (New) The baseball bat as claimed in claim 4, wherein the end of said second section of said core has an inner shoulder to complementedly connect with an outer shoulder formed on said ringlike device.